

INSIDE: Information on Nevin Elementary
School Proposed Addition Project

**Project documents are available for public review at
the following locations:**

Nevin Avenue Elementary School
Contact: Principal Jane Marques
1569 East 32nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90011
Phone: (323) 232-2236

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Regional Records Office
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201
Contact: Jone Barrio
Phone: (818) 551-2886
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Communications
450 North Grand Avenue, Room H-174
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Contact: Susie Solano
Phone: (213) 625-6766
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Los Angeles Unified School District
Office of Environmental Health and Safety
355 South Grand Avenue, Sixth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90071
Contact: Tom Watson
Phone: (213) 633-8242
Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Fact Sheet
April 2002

Nevin Elementary School
Proposed Addition Project



PROPOSED REMOVAL ACTION

*DTSC is one of six
Boards and
Departments within
the California
Environmental
Protection Agency.
The Department's
mission is to restore,
protect and enhance
the environment,
to ensure public health,
environmental
quality and
economic vitality,
by regulating
hazardous waste,
conducting and
overseeing
cleanups, and
developing
and promoting
pollution prevention.*

State of California



**California
Environmental
Protection Agency**



INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet describes an environmental investigation and proposed hazardous substance cleanup activities for a new school site planned for your neighborhood. The Nevin Elementary School Proposed Addition Project adjoins the existing school property to the east and borders South Compton Avenue and East 32nd Street in Los Angeles, California. The site cleanup will be conducted by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) under the oversight of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). DTSC is the state agency responsible for assessing, investigating and cleaning-up school property sites. DTSC ensures that schools are free of contamination or, if the properties were previously contaminated, that they have been cleaned-up to a level that protects the students and faculty who occupy the school.

The LAUSD conducted an environmental investigation known as a Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) at the proposed addition site. The site investigation detected volatile organic compounds and semi-volatile organic compounds (such as cleaning chemicals, solvents, and gasoline) and metals in soil samples in concentrations that exceed DTSC health risk levels. Exposure to this level represents a potential health hazard to the public. As a result of the PEA findings, LAUSD is proposing a site cleanup known as a removal action. DTSC, a department of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), agreed that a removal action should be conducted to remove and eliminate the risk posed by these hazardous substances. Once the contaminated soil is removed, the potential risk associated with these compounds will be eliminated and the site will be safe for students and faculty.

**Public
Comment
Period**

Announcing a 30-day public review and comment period on the Draft Final Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the Nevin Elementary School Proposed Addition Project. The DTSC invites you to take an active interest in the issues affecting the removal of hazardous substances at this school addition site. The comment period is from:

April 5, 2002 to May 4, 2002

The complete RAW report and other related project documents are available at the local Information Repositories listed at the end of this fact sheet.

LAUSD has prepared a Draft Final Removal Action Workplan for the cleanup of the contaminated soil. The DTSC is accepting public comment on the proposed removal action during a 30-day public comment period starting on April 5, 2002.

Site Description

The site occupies approximately one acre and currently is vacant, except for a temporary construction trailer and associated portable storage containers. The land use in the surrounding area is manufacturing/industrial, with residential areas to the south and east.

Site Investigation

Evaluation of the site occurred in two phases. The first phase, conducted in August 2001, consisted of soil gas and soil sampling, the results of which are contained in the PEA Report. The investigation identified issues of potential environmental concern, including the existence of disturbed soil/fill material (likely construction rubble) and soil stockpiles at the site, and the former operation of plating, auto repair, and plastic manufacturing facilities on adjacent off-site parcels. The second phase, conducted in December 2001, included a Focused Soil Investigation (FSI) that included additional soil sampling to determine the extent of contaminated soil at the site.

Environmental Investigation Results

Based on the findings of the PEA and FSI, DTSC determined further action was appropriate due to the presence of organic and inorganic contaminants in soil and soil vapor samples. LAUSD recommended that a Removal Action Workplan (RAW) be prepared to address areas of contaminated soil. The contaminated soil is associated primarily with disturbed soil/fill that is present across the site at thicknesses ranging from approximately 1.5 to 16 feet.

Removal Action Workplan Scope

The Draft Final Removal Action Workplan (RAW), prepared in March 2002, identifies and screens possible removal action alternatives. Removal action alternatives were screened and evaluated on the basis of their effectiveness, ability to implement, and cost. Screening of several cleanup techniques using these criteria was conducted to select removal actions for further evaluation. Based on this screening, four possible alternatives were selected for further evaluation:

- Alternative 1 – No Action
- Alternative 2 – Onsite Containment (Capping) and Institutional Controls
- Alternative 3 – Excavation and Offsite Disposal
- Alternative 4 – Excavation and Onsite Treatment

Based on the removal action selection process, Alternative 3, Excavation and Offsite Disposal, has been selected as the preferred cleanup alternative. This alternative was selected because it was determined to be the most protective of human health and the environment, easily implemented, and cost effective.

Proposed Removal Action Activities

The soil removal activities will be conducted under DTSC oversight. Prior to any excavation, the contaminated soil areas will be marked using stakes or marking paint. Excavation areas will be secured using temporary fencing or barriers to reduce the potential for unauthorized personnel to enter the work area.

Approximately 4,400 cubic yards (6,600 tons) of contaminated soil will be excavated from depths ranging from 1.5 to 10 feet below ground surface. The excavation will be conducted using a track-mounted excavator or similar equipment with the capability of excavating soil and loading the soil directly into the staged hazardous waste transport trucks. Approximately 50 to 60 trucks per day will be used to transport the soil to approved disposal facilities. This daily volume of trucks is not expected to cause a significant disruption in local traffic.

The soil will be excavated, to the extent possible, in a manner that reduces the potential to generate dust. Dust will be controlled by spraying water prior to daily work activities, during excavation/loading activities, and at truck staging locations. Air monitoring will be conducted during excavation and soil handling activities to measure for potential emissions. In addition, airborne dust monitoring will be conducted to verify and document dust control effectiveness.

LAUSD will take necessary steps to minimize impacts to the community. The excavation will take place when the Nevin Elementary School is not in session. Community members will be notified prior to initiation of removal activities.

When the excavation work is complete, confirmation sampling will be conducted to verify the contaminated soil has been removed to a safe level. A completion

report will be prepared and submitted to DTSC for review and approval prior to construction. The excavated areas will be backfilled and compacted with certified clean material, consistent with school construction specifications.

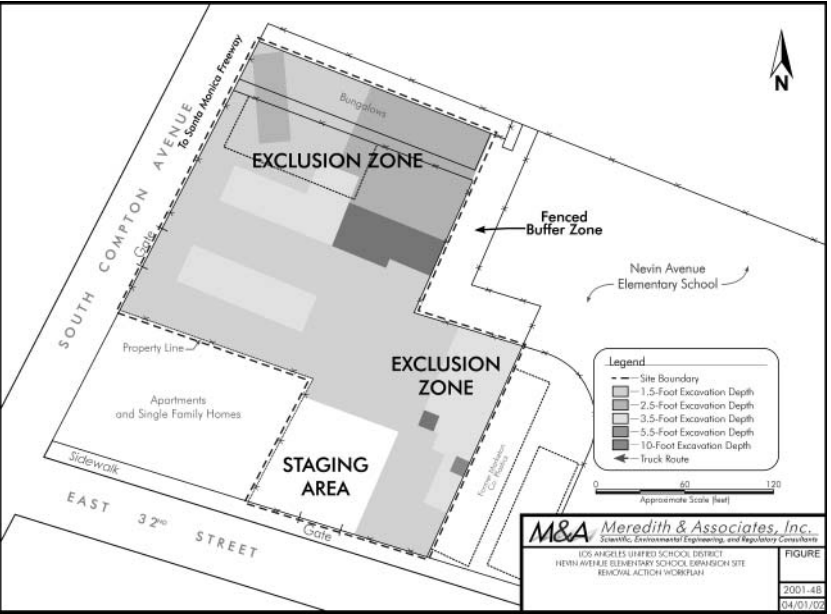
Notice of Exemption (NOE)

DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The NOE document indicates the project will not have a significant negative effect on the environment because of the relatively small volume, short project duration, and the controlled manner in which contaminated soils will be excavated, loaded onto trucks and taken offsite for disposal/treatment.

What Happens Next?

Prior to making a final decision on the Nevin Elementary School Proposed Addition Draft Final Removal Action Workplan, DTSC will receive comments during the 30-day public comment period, which begins on April 5 and ends on May 4, 2002. Comments may be submitted in writing to: Ms. Robbie Morris, Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 1011 North Grandview Avenue, Glendale, California 91201. Comments must be postmarked by May 4, 2002.

Upon completion of the comment period, DTSC will review and consider any public comments and revise the RAW, if necessary, prior to final approval. Upon approval of the RAW, fieldwork may begin in May 2002. The removal action fieldwork, including soil excavation, transportation of excavated soil, and confirmation soil sampling will take an estimated 10 days. After reviewing the Removal Action Workplan Completion Report, DTSC will certify that the site is safe and the LAUSD can proceed with the school construction process.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions regarding the environmental investigation please contact:
Trevia Miller, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, (818) 551-2846
Robbie Morris, DTSC Project Manager, (818) 551-2941
Jeanne Garcia, Media Contact, (818) 551-2176.

Si desea información en español, comuníquese con:
Sr. Eloy Florez, Especialista en Participación Pública de el DTSC, al (818) 551-2875.

LAUSD Contact:
Tom Watson, Project Manager, LAUSD Office of Environmental Health and Safety, (213) 633-8242.

Si desea información en español, comuníquese con el: Sr. Joseph Pina, Oficina de Alcance a la Comunidad del LAUSD (LAUSD Community Outreach Office), al (213) 633-8978 o por correo electrónico: jpina@laschools.org.